

# Learning Links

## SPEECH PATHOLOGY



### APPOINTMENTS - MELTON AND NIDDRIE

Our Niddrie clinic is located at Eastbrooke Medical Centre at 493-495 Keilor Road, Niddrie. and our Melton clinic is located at Incredible You Allied Health at 186 Coburns Road, Melton. We work on weekdays.

### WE ARE HIRING

We are looking for a motivated and dedicated Speech Pathologist to join our team. If you know someone who would be a good fit tell them to look out our ad on Seek or the link on our Facebook page!!

## Welcome Back

Welcome to another term! We hope you all had a safe and fun-filled break over the Easter holidays!!

Our Term 2 newsletter will give you some tips and tricks for practicing language skills, new apps to try out and what training we have been up to!

Happy Reading!!

2

### MEET OUR TEAM

Learn more about what the Learning Links team have been up to!

3

### SPOTLIGHT SECTION

Learn some tips to practice language skills!

4

### TECHNOLOGY SECTION

Have you tried these apps before?

## Meet our Team

### Joanne

Joanne attended the Creative Ways to Help Children Manage Emotions training with IYAH Occupational Therapist Natalie on the 4th of May.

She has come back with practical skills and activities to help children with anxiety, anger and emotion regulation difficulties especially during therapy sessions.

**"I have lots of ideas to add into group and individual sessions"**



### Peta and Tara

Peta and Tara attended a training about Spelling Intervention with Jenny Baker in April. This training gave an overview of assessment and intervention of spelling skills for school aged children.

Jenny was a fabulous presenter that gave us some great information and really highlighted how difficult reading and writing can be to learn for most people, but especially those that have articulation and language difficulties.

One of our favourite quotes from the session was a great analogy that Jenny told us.

**"We learn to spell with our 'Lips, head and heart': You sound out a new word with your lips, then you learn to sound out that word in your head and then you know it off by heart"**

She used this analogy to help kids understand where they were in the 'learning to spell the word process.

If you would like to hear more about what we learnt at this training, don't forget to chat to Tara or Peta at your next session!

## CHOICEWORKS

I mention this app a lot but it is a staple in our clinic!

Chiceworks is a visual schedule which is kind of like a 'kids diary'. We can put all of the activities that we are doing for the session on here. We can even use photos of the items we are using or have the kids voice record their own labels for the items too.

Why not try this out at home to help your kids understand all of the things that we need to do in the morning/ afternoon routine.

## Tips for building language

### Tips to help your kids build language on your way to extra curricular activities

We all talk about kids learning to read and write when they get to school, but in reality they start to learn the habits of reading and writing well before they put on that first school uniform.



Hands up who feels like they constantly have something to do? whether it be extra curricular activities like swimming/ dancing or medical appointments like going to the doctor or dentist!

Believe it or not these can be great times to work on language skills.

How about trying out getting you child to **tell you what they might do** at their swimming lesson or Auskick class that day? It's a great way to work on **prediction** skills without having to find time to sit down and do it?



Why not get your child to tell other carers or siblings **what they did** at their extra curricular activity? You can work on **sequencing** skills (for the event) and **asking and answering questions** too if you have a different person do this each night.

Happy practice!!!

## SINGING WITH YOUR CHILD

The Hanen Centre have some great information, tips and ideas on how to encourage your child to sing. This can help social, cognitive and communication development in your child while you both connect and have fun together!

Check out the link below,

<http://www.hanen.org/Helpful-Info/Fun-Activities/How-to-Sing-with-Toddlers-The-Hanen-Way.aspx>

## TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Have you used these apps before?

### WH Questions Pro

This app is an oldie but a goodie! It's great for working on different kinds of questions and has some really fun, motivating ways to do this at home.



### What are they thinking/ feeling

I use this app a lot when I am teaching someone else's thoughts and feelings. It's also great because it allows you to select the pictures that you want to use and keep track of your child's progress.



### Smiling Mind

This app was created by a non profit organisation in Australia with the mission of improving mental health through meditation or mindfulness.

Mindfulness is about being fully present and not being overly reactive or overwhelmed. One of the ways people have been mindful in the past is through meditation. It can make you feel better and reduce stress.

It has numerous programs for kids in different age groups, as well as for schools, workplaces, and sports.

